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Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Fifty-fourth session

Summary record (partial)* of the 20th meeting
Held at the Palais Wilson, Geneva, on Friday, 6 March 2015, at 3 p.m.

Chairperson: Mr. Sadi

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* No summary record was prepared for the rest of the meeting.

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The meeting was called to order at 3.05 p.m.

Substantive issues arising in the implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (*continued*)

1. **The Chairperson**, reviewing the activities and meetings that had taken place during the session, said that three new members had been welcomed to the Committee, the Committee had elected officers, and new members had been appointed to the working group on communications. Turning to the Committee's core activities, he noted that dialogues had been conducted with representatives of Paraguay and Tajikistan and that one report, that of the Gambia, had been considered in the absence of a delegation from the State party. That absence was regrettable, as dialogue with States parties was an integral part of the reporting process. Non-reporting States had been invited to a meeting, although representatives of only 2 of the 28 such States had been able to attend. Efforts would be made to determine how best to engage with States parties and encourage them to meet their reporting obligations.

2. Work had also continued on thematic issues. Drafts of general comments on the right to just and favourable conditions of work, which was dealt with in article 7 of the Covenant, and the right to sexual and reproductive health, which was dealt with in article 12, had been discussed, presentations had been given on three other proposed general comments and a statement on social protection floors had been adopted. In that connection, a meeting at the Committee's next session would be devoted to a half-day of general discussion on the right to just and favourable conditions of work. In view of the adoption by the General Assembly of its resolution 68/268 on strengthening and enhancing the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system, the Committee had also discussed its working methods, including such issues as its working languages.

Consideration of reports

(a) Reports submitted by States parties in accordance with articles 16 and 17 of the Covenant (*continued*) (E/C.12/GMB/CO/1; E/C.12/PRY/CO/4; E/C.12/TJK/CO/2-3)

3. **The Chairperson** said that, if there were no objections, he would take it that the Committee wished to adopt its concluding observations on the reports of the Gambia, Paraguay and Tajikistan.

4. *It was so decided.*

Closure of the session

5. After an exchange of courtesies, the Chairperson declared closed the fifty-fourth session of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

The discussion covered in the summary record ended at 3.15 p.m.